

JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

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BLIND CHILD LEPERS TO RECEIVE BIBLES

The Japan Council of Christian Evangelism for the Blind is arranging to present about two hundred copies of the Bible in Braille to blind child lepers in the various institutions of Japan. This gift has been made possible by an offering of ¥ 6,000 at a Bible Seminar conducted this summer at Karuizawa under the auspices of the United Church of Christ in Japan. There are thirteen leper sanitararia in Japan and one in Okinawa. The Council is currently conducting an investigation in order to discover the number of child lepers. The Japan Bible Society makes copies of the Braille Bible available at ¥ 30 a volume.

CONFERENCE OF BLIND STUDENTS

The Yamate Church in Shibuya is planning a one-day conference of blind students on November 25, under the auspices of the Youth Department of the Japan Council for Christian Evangelism for the Blind. Mr. Keiji Tamata of Kwanto Gakuin Theological Seminary is president of the Council. Mr. Minoru Takahashi of Nippon University is president of the Association of Blind University students.

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REFUGEES FROM CHINA TO BE ASSISTED

Japan Church World Service has launched a new program of assisting Chinese refugees from the mainland to emigrate to the United States. Here-to-fore assistance of this nature has been mainly concerned with stateless White Russians, Greeks and Turks. Approximately 400 such persons have been assisted. In connection with this program Mr. Hallam Shorrock is on a short visit to Taipei and Hong Kong.

RELIGIOUS JURIDICAL PERSONS LAW TO BE REVISED

At the request of the Minister of Education the Religious Juridical Persons Advisory Council has appointed a sub-committee to study the Religious Juridical Persons Law and bring in recommendations for its amendment. In this connection the Reverend Iwao Niwa, General Secretary of the United Church of Christ in Japan, is quoted by the Christian Press (October 7, 1956) as saying in substance, "Control over religion cannot be avoided. Under the current Law any religion is permitted to incorporate regardless of the content of its faith. Even a new religion can be regarded as on the same level as Christianity."

E. STANLEY JONES COMING IN FEBRUARY

Dr. E. Stanley Jones will return to Japan in February for a three months evangelistic campaign. However, instead of the usual program of public meetings, Ashrams will be held in Kanto, Kansai, Kyushu, Hokkaido and as many other localities as time will permit.

PRIZE-WINNING SHORT NOVELS ANNOUNCED

The Literature Department of the National Christian Council has announced the Winners of the recently conducted short novel contest. No first prize was awarded. Second prizes were (¥ 10,000) awarded to "Mount Fuji from a Ward Window" (Fuji no Mieru Byosha) by Miss Masayo Hashimoto of the Yokohama National Sanitarium and "The Shepherd" (Tsuiyosha) by Mr. Misaki Takayanagi. These and other awards will be made at the Ginza Christian Center on October 27. The stories will be published in New Age beginning in January.

YOUTH PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

Christian Home and Family Life Movement of NCC will invite some fifty representatives of Christian organizations to the Kofukaku in Izu on November 7 to discuss youth problems. Judge Hiroshi Ando and the Reverend Tokuzo Hiraga, Professor of Tokyo Theological Seminary will speak and lead discussion of "Youth Problems and the Responsibility of the Church."

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AMSTERDAM

Division of
Foreign Affairs

April 10, 1941

Dear Sir:

Ch.
H.
T.

Dear Sir:

Dear Sir:

Dear Sir:

Dear Sir:

Dear Sir:

Very
Sincerely,
[Signature]

W. J. P. [Signature]

Dear Sir:

Very
Sincerely,
[Signature]

Very
Sincerely,
[Signature]

Very
Sincerely,
[Signature]

THEOLOGICAL TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR OKINAWA

Under the auspices of the Asia Council of Ecumenical Mission an Institute for the training of Christian ministers will be established in Okinawa. According to present plans, professors of theological seminars affiliated with the United Church of Christ in Japan will serve as lecturers. The Reverend Kozo Kashiwai will go to Okinawa in November to make preliminary arrangements.

RELIEF FOR HOKKAIDO

Japan Church World Service is sending 776 tons of rice to relieve the distress of 6,964 families of pioneer villages in Hokkaido. In spite of the fact that the rest of the country is facing prospects of a bumper crop, Hokkaido has been struck by successive cold waves and expects only 52 percent of the normal yield this year. Special relief measures are being taken by the government but the plight of the families who are attempting to open up new land is especially pitiful and additional assistance is needed.

MISSIONARY-CHURCH RELATIONS

The Annual Fall Conference of the Cooperative Evangelism Committee and Council of Cooperation was held at Amagisan So in Izu late in September. Ninety-one persons were present, including forty-eight missionaries. Missionary-Church relations and the role of the missionary in the field of evangelism were discussed. Reporting on the results of a recent survey, the Reverend Yoshio Naganomachi said that missionaries in evangelism should live the same life as those with whom they labour.

DR. ALBERT SCHWEITZER TO BE INVITED

The Centennial Committee of the National Christian Council has announced that Dr. Albert Schweitzer will be invited to Japan in connection with celebrations in 1959. Other notables to be invited are the Archbishop of Canterbury and Dr. Billy Graham.

JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS RALLY

A city-wide rally of Junior High School students was held at the Ginza Christian Church on October 14. Dr. Saburo Yasumura spoke on "A Journey to a New World," and a technicolor movie entitled "Creation" and slides illustrating the life of Martin Luther were shown. About two hundred and fifty attended.

HONG KONG JUNIOR HIGH PRINCIPALS VISIT JAPAN

A reception for eight principals of Junior High Schools from Hong Kong was held on October 9th from 3 p.m. at the Ginza Christian center. The party is investigating Christian schools in Japan.

FELLOWSHIP MEETING OF PREWAR "NIKKI" MINISTERS

A fellowship meeting of former ministers of the pre-war Church of Christ in Japan, who are now divided in their denominational affiliations, was held at the Tokyo City YMCA on October 14th. One group of these ministers is with the seventy-seven churches which separated from the United Church to form a denomination using the prewar name. This is currently called the "Shin Nikki". The other group is in United Church. This is the first meeting since the division occurred in 1951.

Rev. Fredelick Wisloff, President of the Domestic Evangelism Council of the Lutheran Church of Norway, is due to arrive in Japan October 30 for three months to study the Japan Evangelical Lutheran churches in Japan.

Principals of Christian Junior High Schools met on October 6th at the Ginza Christian Center to discuss problems in connection with a revision of the curriculum proposed by the Ministry of Education.

The Reverend Edward J. Winans and Dr. Pearl B. Fosnot, former Methodist missionaries in China and presently teachers at Aoyama Gakuin in Tokyo, were married at the school chapel on October 2.

Mrs. Harriet Mead Woodard, wife of William Parson Woodard, died of heart failure in her home in Tokyo on Tuesday October 9th. Mr. Woodard is a Congregational Christian Church (IBC) missionary assigned to the National Christian Council for public relations.

Dr. Michio Kozaki, chairman of the National Christian Council, returned to Tokyo on October 10 after a three months tour of Europe and America.

